









CATALOGUE

OF THE

MIDDLEBOROUGH SOCIAL LIBRARY.

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FOUNDED 1832.

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TAUNTON:

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# CATALOGUE.

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**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**MIDDLEBOROUGH SOCIAL LIBRARY.**





# CONSTITUTION.

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**ART. 1.** This Association shall be known by the name of the **MIDDLEBOROUGH SOCIAL LIBRARY.**

## **Section I. Officers and their Duties.**

**ART. 1.** The Officers of the Middleborough Social Library shall consist of a Board of five Managers, a Librarian, a Treasurer who shall also be Collector, and a Clerk, who shall be chosen at the Annual Meeting, by ballot, to hold their offices for one year ; provided, however, that if any vacancy occur, it may be filled at any time, by a majority of the Officers already chosen.

**ART. 2.** The Managers shall exercise a general supervision over *all* the interests of the Library, inspect the records of the Librarian and Clerk, audit the accounts of the Treasurer, be a committee for the purchase of books, and make an annual report of their doings, and of the condition and prospects of the Library.

**ART. 3.** The Librarian, either in person or by a proper substitute, shall keep the Library open for the delivery and exchange of books, during such hours as are provided by the By-Laws and the Managers, keep a strict account of the delivery of books, for the loss of which he shall be accountable in cases of neglect, keep a correct list of all the Proprietors, and may exercise such authority as may be necessary for the good order of the Library.



ART. 4. The Treasurer shall keep a strict account of all the receipts and expenditures of money belonging to the Proprietors, and make a report to the Managers of the financial condition of the Library, at the annual meeting of the Proprietors.

ART. 5. The Clerk shall be under oath or affirmation for the faithful discharge of his duty, and shall keep a fair record of the votes and other proceedings of meetings of the Proprietors.

### **Section II. Meetings.**

ART. 1. There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Proprietors at the Library Room, on the last Wednesday in May.

ART. 2. Special meetings of the Proprietors may be called at the request of five of the Proprietors.

ART. 3. All meetings shall be called by the warrant of the Managers directed to the Clerk, stating the time, place and object of the meeting, requiring him to give public notice thereof, at least seven days previous to the day of the meeting.

ART. 4. The Clerk shall call all meetings to order.

ART. 5. Seven Proprietors shall be a quorum for the transaction of business, and each Proprietor shall be entitled to one vote for each share owned by him.

### **Section III. Shares, Transfers, &c.**

ART. 1. The property of the Library is divided into shares placed in the hands of the Treasurer for sale at the price of five dollars per share.

ART. 2. All transfers of shares shall be made at the Library by the owner thereof in person, or by his attorney; provided the Treasurer shall transfer to purchasers such shares as may be bought of the Library, or may be sold at Auction for payment of assessments or fines due thereon.

ART. 3. No transfer of any share shall be made until all assessments or fines due thereon are first paid.

ART. 4. The Librarian shall give to every shareholder a certificate of his share, which certificate becomes null and void, when said share shall be transferred to another person.

#### **Section IV. Funds.**

ART. 1. An annual assessment, not less than twenty-five cents, may be made upon each share, the amount of which shall be determined at the Annual Meeting.

ART. 2. The Treasurer shall give notice to every Proprietor of the amount due by him, and if his assessment is not paid within three months after the day when such assessment was made, he will not be permitted to take books from the Library.

ART. 3. At the expiration of the three months mentioned in the preceding article, the Treasurer shall make out a correct list of all delinquent Proprietors, and report the same to the Managers, who may thereupon direct the Treasurer to give public notice, by advertising at least two weeks previous to the time of the sale, in some newspaper published in the County of Plymouth, that the shares of said Proprietors will be sold at public auction, inserting the number of the share, and the time and place of the sale. The surplus, if any, which remains after deducting the sum due, and the costs of the sale, shall be paid to the delinquent who owned the same.

ART. 4. No money shall be paid from the Treasury, except by order of the Managers, and the balance remaining, after paying the current expenses of the year, shall be expended by the Managers in the purchase of books.

#### **Section V. Alterations and Amendments.**

No amendment, addition or alteration shall be made to this Constitution, except by a vote of two-thirds present at the meeting.



## BY-LAWS.

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ART. 1. The Library shall be open at all such hours and days as the Managers shall direct, and the Proprietors to have liberty at all such times, of taking out and exchanging books.

ART. 2. Each shareholder may take one volume at a time from the Library for each share owned by him to be retained by him not longer than three months.

ART. 3. All the books to be in the Library on the last Wednesday in May, in every year, from three to six, P. M., under a penalty of 12 1-2 cents, for each book not so returned. For every book kept out more than three months, and less than four months from the time of taking, a fine of 12 1-2 cents, and an additional fine of 12 1-2 cents for every month which any book may be detained *after the three months*.

ART. 4. No book shall be taken from the Library by any person, until *all* assessments and fines due by him are paid.

ART. 5. The Librarian shall assess damages on books that have been unnecessarily injured; and no person shall take books from the Library until such assessment has been paid.









WARD'S  
NO. 85-7



